

Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield

Severe weather preparedness 2008

The **FRONTLINE**

The Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield hotline below will be activated during a disaster to assist families and DA Civilians in getting the latest information on the installations and to get the ALL CLEAR

1-866-586-3116

Other important numbers:

Liberty-Hinesville emergency Management Agency 24-hour information line . . .912-877-5362
Chatham Emergency Management Agency912-201-4500
Bryan emergency Management Agency912-756-3259

Severe weather preparedness

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Right: The First Baptist Church of Gulfport, Miss. sustained heavy damage from a 25 foot tidal surge and hurricane force winds.

Below: The Grand Casino, in Gulfport, broke into multiple pieces and was relocated by Hurricane Katrina.



Photos courtesy of Raymond Brooks
Gulfport Police Department, Gulfport, Miss.



The threat of a severe weather to this area is real and warrants utmost attention for preparation and action. It is important that we all know what to expect during one of these storms, and what to do to reduce the risk to our families and ourselves.

Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield Garrison staff is continuously striving to improve severe-weather preparedness throughout the installation. These efforts include incorporating lessons learned from previous events, results of exercises, and clearance time requirements.

Over the last few years there has been a marked increase in public levels of hurricane awareness. This has been matched by a renewed dedication by this command and surrounding communities to work collaboratively to protect lives and property from the threat of tropical systems.

I strongly encourage you to take appropriate preventive measures, and urge you to read this handbook that identifies changes and adapt your actions and checklists to your personal needs. Keep in mind that hurricanes, as well as tornado and thunderstorm, are destructive storms. Your safety could depend on your actions and preparations.

Comments or questions concerning this handbook should be addressed to the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization, and Security, (912) 767-2583.

Col. Todd A. Buchs
United States Army garrison commander
Fort Stewart, Hunter Army Airfield

Introduction

Hurricanes can cause widespread damage without ever making land-fall. Tropical systems from the Atlantic Ocean and Gulf of Mexico have caused major flooding and inland winds as far north as the mountain regions in Georgia. In addition, rapid population growth along the hurricane-prone coastline increases the risk of loss of life and extreme property damage. Everyone takes personal responsibility for taking appropriate preventive measures to prepare himself or herself in the event of a hurricane.

Command Hurricane Policy

- The installation commander makes all decisions requiring evacuation of Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield. Local county emergency management agencies decide on evacuation within their jurisdictions.

- Fort Stewart provides shelter facilities for billeted Soldiers, not families in GMH, ordered to evacuate from Hunter Army Airfield.

- Fort Stewart decisions follow the principle of “run from the water, hide from the wind.”

- Greatest Threat is wind damage and storm surge.

MARNE TV is the official source of news, information, and updates. The Stewart/Hunter intranet and web site on the

internet are also news sources.

- Soldiers may have duties that prevent their evacuation with their Families.

- On- and off-post Families must prepare to evacuate to Georgia emergency shelters or other inland locations, with or without their sponsors.

- Preparation is critical to success. Ensure you have an evacuation plan.

- Pet owners must make proper arrangements for their pets during evacuations. This includes having enough water and food for each pet. The use of pet carriers is recommended.



Evacuation Policy

Hunter Army Airfield policy _____

- There will be no shelters opened on Hunter Army Airfield.
- Based upon projected storm track and intensity, the installation commander may decide that Soldiers residing in barracks will remain there and will encourage Families in GMH Military Housing to remain in housing.
- During hurricanes, the installation commander may decide that Soldiers residing in barracks will evacuate to other locations specified by their respective chains of command. Soldiers and their Families residing in GMH will evacuate via privately owned vehicles to Georgia emergency shelters or other inland locations.
- Soldiers and Family members residing off-post must follow the orders and directives of their respective local emergency management agency and evacuate to Georgia emergency shelters or other inland locations.

Fort Stewart policy _____

- The Central Inprocessing Center for evacuees is Mower Processing Center, building number 208. This serves as the central inprocessing center for Fort Stewart. The designated parking is the Mower Processing Center parking lot.
- POVs will be used to evacuate when possible.
- Based upon projected hurricane track and intensity, the installation commander may decide that Soldiers residing in barracks will remain there and will encourage Families residing in GMH to also remain in housing.
- During intense hurricanes, the installation commander may decide that Soldiers residing in barracks will evacuate to other locations specified by their respective chains of command. Soldiers and their Families residing in GMH will evacuate via POV to Georgia emergency shelters or other inland locations..
- Soldiers and Family members residing off-post will follow the orders and directives of their respective local emergency management agency and evacuate to Georgia emergency shelters or other inland locations..

Fort Stewart Central Inprocessing Center

Mower Processing Center, Building 208, is the Central Inprocessing Center for Fort Stewart shelters. Designated parking is in the Mower Processing Center parking lot.

Fort Stewart Shelters

<u>Priority</u>	<u>Building</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Site</u>
1st	.....708	.....767-4763	.....Caro Physical Fitness Center
2nd	.....608	.....767-5079	.....Jordan Physical Fitness Center
3rd	.....402	.....767-4866	.....Marne Lanes
4th	.....100	.....767-8331	.....Education Center
5th	.....610	.....767-8801	.....Marne Chapel
6th	.....2125	.....767-7028	.....Victory Chapel
7th	.....5602	.....876-6094	.....Diamond Elementary

Georgia web site for shelters

Visit www.gema.state.ga.us/ohsgemawebsh.nsf/FullOpenShelters?OpenForm for updated and current information. Only Open or Full shelters are displayed on this page. Contact your local emergency management

agency or listen to local broadcast media before traveling to an emergency shelter to determine which shelters have actually been opened. Emergency shelters are opened only on an as-needed basis.

Evacuation Routes

- Soldiers and Family members residing off-post will follow the orders and directives of their respective local emergency management agency. Once the evacuation begins it is imperative for all personnel to pay particular attention to the hurricane evacuation route signage.
- Additionally, the Georgia Emergency Management Agency in conjunction with the Georgia Department of Transportation will have portable electronic message boards along the routes containing updated directions and information. Some Coastal Georgia evacuation routes are:

Chatham County:

Highway 21

US 80

I-16

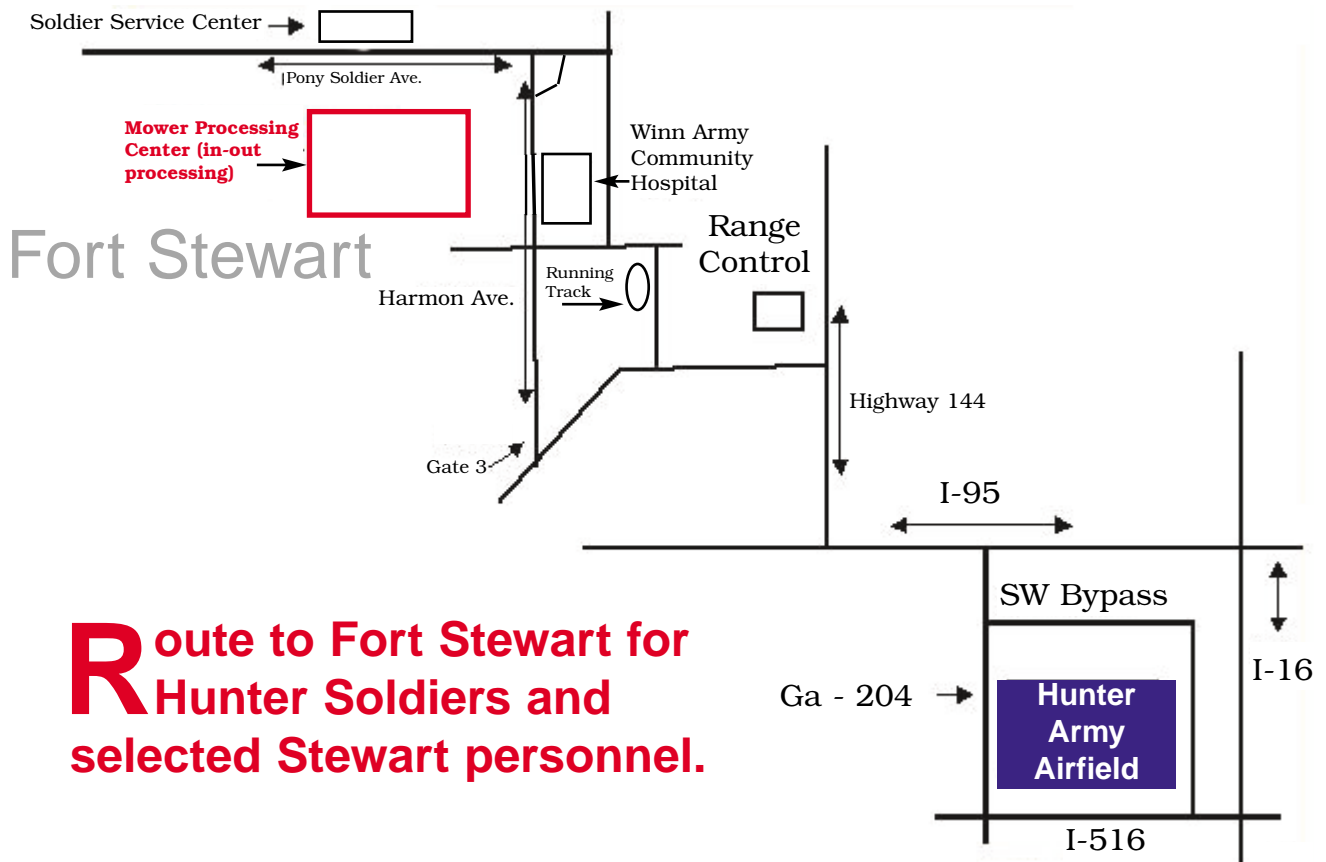
Highway 204 to US 280

Bryan County:

Highway 144 to US 301 (Statesboro)

Liberty County:

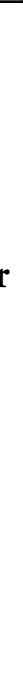
Highway 84 to Highway 196 to Highway 301 (Statesboro)



**Route to Fort Stewart for
Hunter Soldiers and
selected Stewart personnel.**

*Georgia Emergency
Management Agency*

Hurricane Evacuation Routes



Civilian Shelter Locations

If Soldiers and/or their Families are required to evacuate their off-post residences, they should go to one of the primary or alternate inland shelters identified on the following map. Each Family should register every person arriving with it at the shelter. Alcoholic beverages or weapons of any kind are not allowed into the shelters.



To handle evacuation traffic, I-16 will be converted to all westbound traffic by the time a mandatory evacuation is declared according to emergency management officials.



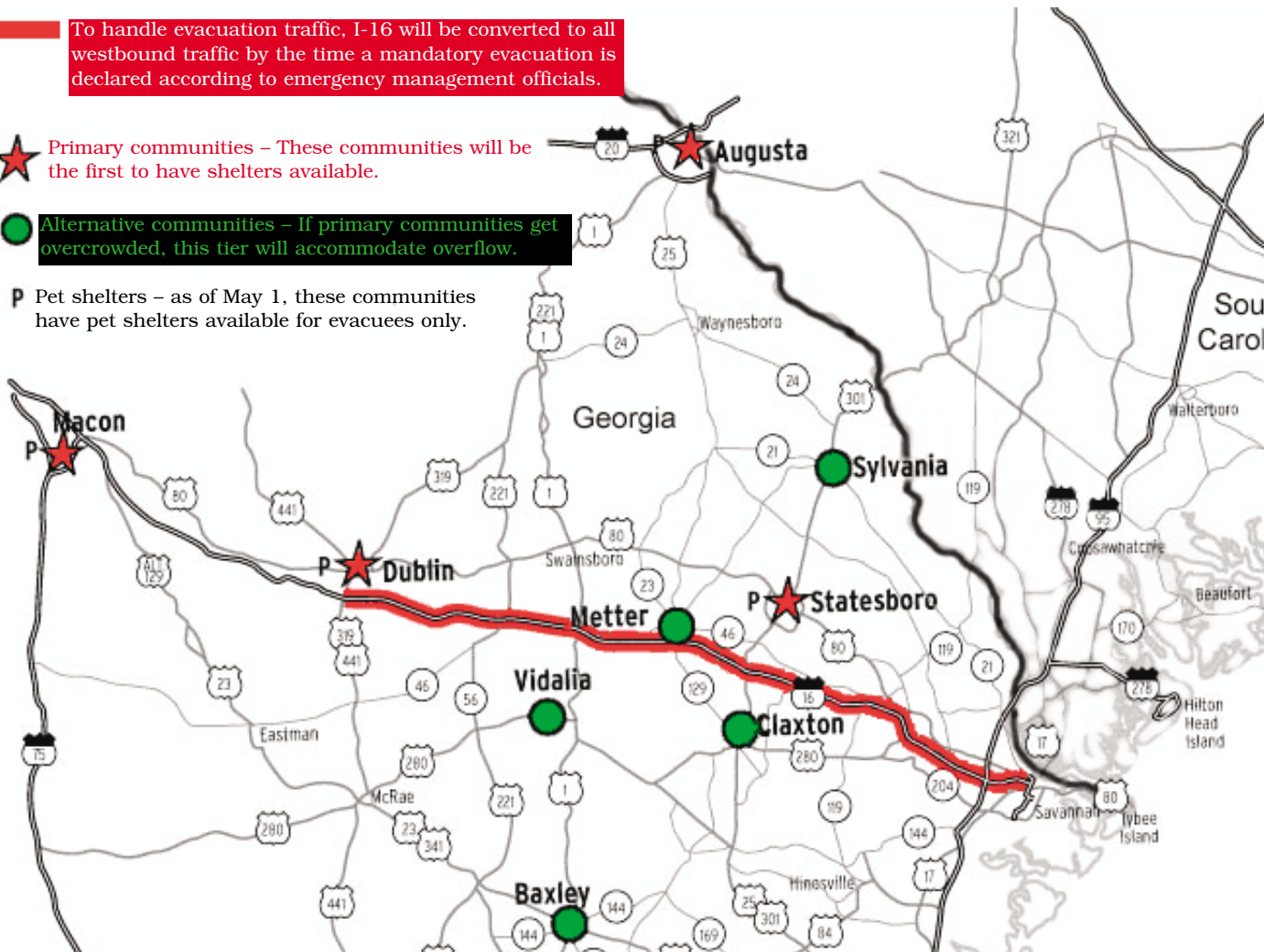
Primary communities – These communities will be the first to have shelters available.



Alternative communities – If primary communities get overcrowded, this tier will accommodate overflow.



P Pet shelters – as of May 1, these communities have pet shelters available for evacuees only.



Where to get information

Peach State Radio Frequencies

The Peach State Radio is Georgia's public radio station, which collaborates with Georgia Emergency Management Agency, and other agencies to provide "real time" information people need during a hurricane. Tune to these FM radio frequencies in the following areas for severe weather information.

Albany – 91.7	Carrollton – 90.7	Fort Gaines – 90.9	Valdosta – 91.7
Athens – 91.7/97.9	Columbus – 88.1	Macon – 89.7	Waycross – 90.1
Augusta – 90.7	Demorest – 88.3	Savannah – 91.1	
Brunswick – 89.1	Dahlonega – 89.5	Tifton – 91.1	



Hurricane-related web sites

The following partial listing of weather and hurricane related web sites is provided for your information and access:

- The Weather Channel – www.weather.com
- National Weather Service – www.nws.noaa.gov
- National Weather Service, Southern Region – www.srh.noaa.gov
- National Hurricane Center – www.nhc.noaa.gov

Severe weather notification service through email or cell

phone – www.emergencyemailnetwork.com

- Federal Emergency Management Agency – www.fema.gov
- Georgia Office of Homeland Security – www.gema.state.ga.us
- Chatham County EMA – cema.chathamcounty.org/index.asp
- Liberty County EMA – mylocalgov.com/LibertyCountyGA/WebDept.asp?key=15
- Red Cross Homepage – www.redcross.org

Evacuation checklist and kits

Have a prepared hurricane evacuation kit and take it with you when you evacuate. Hurricane evacuation kits should contain the following items:

- Maintain at least 1/2 tank gas in your vehicle.
- Water – Have a three-day supply. One gallon per person per day.
- Non-perishable food items, canned meats, fruits and vegetables, snacks, etc.
- Prescription drugs and other medication.
- Baby food or other unique dietary food items.
- Blankets, pillows, and bedding items.
- Pet carriers are recommended. Pet food and water. Call in advance to see if shelter will accept pets.
- Cooler/ice-chest.
- Can opener.
- Pots and pans to prepare foods.
- Camp stoves, portable grill.
- Paper/plastic plates and utensils.
- Extra clothing items.
- Diapers, baby supplies, and small trash bags to dispose of baby waste.
- Personal hygiene items.
- Flashlight and extra batteries.
- Portable radio and extra batteries.
- Important personal paper, including insurance policy information, and important numbers.
- Toys, books, children's games.
- Personal identification for each person, money, credit cards, etc.

Do not take alcoholic beverages of any kind, perishable food items or weapons to the shelter facility.

Accomplish the following home preparations for hurricane force winds:

- Ensure that supplies listed above are on hand.
- Secure furnace rooms, storerooms, garage doors, etc. Covering with plywood is recommended.
- Cover windows with plywood.
- Store loose objects inside, i.e., boxes, BBQ grills, garbage cans, toys, etc.
- Secure objects outside of building, i.e., boats, playground equipment, clothesline, etc.
- Fill vehicle fuel tank.
- Fill water containers, to include bathtubs, as the water supply may become inoperable or contaminated.
- Maintain a minimum three-day supply of non-perishable food and potable water. Additional items

you may need for the aftermath are camping supplies (tents, cots, sleeping bags, camp stoves, lanterns, fuel, etc.).

- If you have a power generator, do not connect it to your house power panel. To do so may send power outside your house along downed power lines and may injure or kill workers at some distance from your house. Plug the items you intend to use directly into the generator.

- Turn your refrigerator thermostat to its maximum cooling temperature.

- Extinguish all appliances with pilot lights, i.e., stoves, furnaces, ranges, etc., for the durations of the hurricane.

- Turn off gas at the meter.

Individual safety precautions

All personnel should limit activity to the confines of their shelter or dwelling. Keep away from glass windows and doors and remain indoors.

Personnel should lie along an inside wall on the side away from the wind and cover themselves with a mattress, din-

ing room table, desk, or some other similar object.

Only emergency phone calls should be made.

Stay fully dressed with rain-coats readily available.

Following the hurricane, remain in a safe place

until the “All Clear” announcement. Do not assume an “All Clear” because there is a lull in the storm. This lull will occur when the eye or center of the hurricane passes directly overhead and the wind will return suddenly from the opposite direction and possibly with even greater violence.

Following an “All Clear” announcement:

- Listen for loudspeaker/radio announcements and instructions from local authorities.

- Do not drive unless absolutely necessary. If you must drive, watch out for debris, washouts, and swollen streams. Do not drive through standing water.

- Stay away from broke or low hanging power lines as well as metal objects that may be in contact

with damaged power lines. Notify military police or other authorities of dangling or broken wires.

- Do not hinder first aid or rescue work. Stay away from disaster areas.

- Be alert – exercise proper caution for snakes, animals, and insects which may travel inland to escape the approaching flood waters caused by hurricane.

(Call the Stewart-Hunter Information Hotline at 1-866-586-3116 to check condition/status)

Make the form on Page 11 or 12 a part of your emergency plan.

All military Families are encouraged to fill out the Family Hurricane Evacuation Plan form on page 11, in English; or Page 12, in Spanish, and turn it in to their rear detachment commander.

FAMILY HURRICANE EVACUATION PLAN

<p>What is your spoken language? _____</p> <p>Your full name, address, cell phone, home phone, work phone, email address: _____ _____ _____ _____</p>	<p>Do you have pets? Yes No</p> <p>What type of pet and what is the name? _____ _____</p> <p>• Pet Health Records.</p> <p>Is pet microchipped? Yes No</p> <p>Where will this pet be going for an evacuation? List name, address and phone number of pet shelter: _____ _____ _____ _____</p>	<p>Where are you going? {Have a backup route}</p> <p>Destination information: Please list 2 POCs to include name, phone and email, address, City and State: _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____</p> <p>• Clothing for each Family Member • Favorite toys etc. • Bedding * Do you have a map of the directions attached to this form? Yes No</p> <p><u>*Helpful Map websites:</u> <i>Mapquest.com</i> <i>Maps.google.com</i> <i>Maps.live.com</i> <i>Randmcnally.com/maps</i></p>
<p>Is this address on post? Yes No</p> <p>What Battalion/Company are you with? _____ _____ _____</p> <p>Is your spouse deployed? Yes No</p> <p>Spouse's Name: _____</p>	<p><u>Other important information:</u> PACKED AND READY TO EVACUATE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POA • Wills • Marriage certificate • Divorce decree • Birth certificates • Social security cards • Shot records • Health Ins. Policy • Passport • ID Cards/License • Inventory of household goods • Deeds • Eyeglasses • Pictures • Medications • Rental/Home Owner's Ins. Policy • Financial Plan for _ days/weeks 	<p>*Call the Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield Toll Free Informational Updates during Man Made or Natural Disasters 1-866-586-3116</p>
<p>Family Members names and ages: _____ _____ _____</p> <p>• EFMP Medically Enrolled</p> <p>Transportation: _____ How many vehicles do you have? _____</p> <p>Which vehicle will you evacuate in? _____ _____</p> <p>Vehicle make, year, model and color: _____ _____</p> <p>License plate number: _____ _____</p>		

<p>Insurance Cards:</p> <p>Tricare: _____</p> <p>Household: _____</p> <p>Homeowners: _____</p> <p>Rental: _____ _____ _____ _____</p>	<p><u>*A NOTE for TRICARE Recipients:</u> Once you arrive at your relocation destination, call TRICARE at (800) 444-5445 and tell them you have been evacuated, where you have evacuated to and anticipated stay time. If hospitalization/medical care is required, then all ancillary fees will be waived.</p>	<p><u>*UTILITY SHUT OFF:</u></p> <p>On Post: GMH will take care of all utility shut off procedures.</p> <p>Off Post: Please contact your utility company for complete directions as how to shut off all power sources – if required.</p>
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PLAN PARA EVACUACION FAMILIAR DURANTE HURACANES

<p>Que idioma habla?</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Nombre completo, dirección residencial, teléfono celular, residencial y trabajo, correo electrónico:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>¿Vive dentro de la base? Si No</p> <p>¿A cual compañía y batallón pertenece? _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>? Su esposo/esposa esta fuera del país? Si No</p> <p>Nombre de su pareja: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Miembros de la familia y edades:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>• EFMP Medically Enrolled</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Transportación:: _____</p> <p>? Cuantos vehículos tiene?</p> <p>_____</p> <p>¿Cual vehiculo usara para la evacuación? _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Marca, modelo, ano y color de el vehiculo:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Numero de placa/estado:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>¿Tiene mascotas? SI No</p> <p>¿Cuales y cuales son los nombres?</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>• Papeles médicos.</p> <p>¿Las mascotas tienen microchip? SI No</p> <p>Nombre, dirección y teléfono del lugar/albergue donde van las mascotas durante la evacuación:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Información importante: Empacado y listo para La evacuación</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POA • Poder Legal • Certificado matrimonio • Papeles de divorcio • Certificados nacimiento • Tarjeta de Seguro Social • Libreto de vacunas • Póliza seguro medico • Pasaporte • Tarjeta Militar/Licencia • Inventario de las propiedades • Escrituras de la propiedad • Lentes par leer • Plan financiero por días/semanas • Fotografías • Medicinas • Contrato de renta/Póliza seguro de la propiedades 	<p>Where are you going? {Have a backup route}</p> <p>Destination information: Please list 2 POCs to include name, phone and email, address, City and State:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>• Ropa para cada miembro de la familia</p> <p>• Juguetes favoritos etc.</p> <p>• Ropa de cama</p> <p>*? Tiene mapa con las direcciones pegadas a este formulario? Si No</p> <p>**Lugares para sacar mapas: Mapquest.com Maps.google.com Maps.live.com Randmcnally.com/maps</p> <p>*Puede llamar al número gratis de información de Fort Stewart y Hunter Army Airfield Durante Desastres Naturales u Ocasionados por el hombre: 1-866-586-3116</p>
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<p>Tarjetas de Seguros:</p> <p>Tricare: _____</p> <p>De propiedades: _____</p> <p>De la casa: _____</p> <p>De la Renta: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>*NOTA para RECIPIENTES de TRICARE: Cuando llegue al lugar de evacuación llame al TRICARE a (800) 444-5445 y déjenle saber a que lugar a sido evacuado y cuanto tiempo espera quedarse hay. Esto le ayudara por si es hospitalizado o nenecita tendencia medica para que no le cobren recargos.</p>	<p>*APAGAR SERVICIO DE UTILIDADES:</p> <p>En la Base: GMH se encargara de apagar las utilidades.</p> <p>Fuera de la Base: Llame a cada una de las compañía de utilidad y pídale instrucciones de como apagar los servicios – si es necesario.</p>
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Fort Stewart, Hunter Army Airfield definitions for Hurricane conditions

(HURCON)

Hurricane conditions based on forecasted arrival of tropical or hurricane force winds ---

- **HURCON 5** – A tropical depression that has the potential to develop into a more serious storm has been identified in the Atlantic, the Caribbean or the Gulf of Mexico and may pose a threat to the southeastern United States.
- **HURCON 4** – There is a possibility of a tropical storm force winds of 39 mph or greater affecting our area within 48 to 72 hours.
- **HURCON 3** – Tropical storm force winds of 39 mph or greater are projected to impact our area within 36 to 48 hours.
- **HURCON 2** – Hurricane force winds of 74 mph or greater are projected to impact our area within 18 to 36 hours.
- **HURCON 1** – Hurricane force winds of 74 mph or greater are projected to impact our area within 18 hours.

2007 hurricane names

Arthur	Hanna	Omar
Bertha	Ike	Paloma
Cristobal	Josephine	Rene
Dolly	Kyle	Sally
Edouard	Laura	Teddy
Fay	Marco	Vicky
Gustav	Nana	Wilfred

Other severe weather conditions

Severe Thunderstorms – thunderstorms with high winds, hail and cloud-to-ground lightning, can form spring through early fall.

Tornadoes – violent rotating column of wind speeds that can reach wind speeds over 200 mph, form in thunderstorms generally spring and fall. Tornadoes can occur at any-time throughout the year.

Flooding – heavy rainfall can cause localized flooding in low lying areas, can occur during any season if heavy rainfall occurs.

Extreme Heat – temperatures above 95 degrees for extended periods (can be several days) can occur during the summer months in Georgia.

Safety Measures

Stay alert for rapidly changing weather conditions via local television, local radio or NOAA weather radio.

Tornado warning sirens on the installation sound when a tornado is visually spotted and reported by a reliable source to the Installation Operation Center or the Air Force weather agencies, or local TV and radio weather reports issue a tornado warning for the Stewart and Hunter. The IOC will sound the warning siren based on the Garrison Commanders decision to sound the warning siren. These warnings may come only minutes before a tornado actually

strikes. The warning is a steady 15-second tone followed by a voice message “*Tornado Warning*” and a civil siren for one minute, this is repeated twice. The “*All Clear*” signal is a 15-second tone followed by the “*All Clear*” message – this is repeated three times.

Soldiers, Family members and civilians may be anywhere when a tornado warning comes. Therefore, each individual Soldier, Family member and civilian must prepare and rehearse the best method of protection based on their location.

Do not drive through low-lying areas or around barricades. You are liable if you ignore safety barricades and endanger yourself and others by driving through flooded roadways.

Stay hydrated and cool to prevent heat injuries during the summer months.

Stay away from windows and move inside to prevent being struck by lightning if thunderstorms are in the area.

Provide pets with shelter during any severe weather – they are just as vulnerable to the effects as we are.



KNOW WHERE and WHEN to SHELTER

Tornado – interior room or central shelter, take shelter immediately if a tornado warning is issued (tornado has been spotted in the local area), DUCK – downstairs, under cover, center of house, keep away from windows.

•**In a building** – Go to an interior room (hall, closet or bath) on the lowest floor, ideally a basement. Stay away from windows and outside walls. Take shelter under heavy furniture or in a bathtub. Cover yourself with padding, mattress, pillows and blankets. Protect your head, face and eyes from flying or falling debris.

•**Outdoors** – Lie down in a depression, ditch or culvert. Cover your head with your arms.

•**In a vehicle or mobile home** – In a vehicle or mobile home is probably the worst place to be located during a tornado. Vehicles are easily tossed about by tornadoes, and fatalities often result to occupants.

Instead, leave the vehicle or mobile home. Seek shelter in a depression or in the nearest sturdy building.

•**In buildings with a large, free span roof** – When in such a building as the Post Exchange, Commissary, or a gymnasium go to the nearest sturdy building or if time does not permit, seek shelter in interior rooms.

Thunderstorm – inside home or business, away from windows, seek shelter if warning is issued for local area.

Flooding – high ground, move toward high ground if flash flood warnings are issued for the local area.

Extreme Heat – inside air conditioned home or business during heat of the day, refrain from outdoor activities between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. during summer months.

Tornado Levels

F-SCALE	INTENSITY	MPH WIND	DAMAGE TYPE
F0	Gale Tornado	40-72	Some damage to chimneys; breaks branches off trees; pushes over shallow-rooted trees; damages sign boards.
F1	Moderate Tornado	73-112	The lower limit is the beginning of hurricane wind speed; peels surface off roofs; mobile homes pushed off foundations or overturned; moving autos pushed off the roads; attached garages may be destroyed.
F2	Significant Tornado	113-157	Considerable damage. Roofs torn off frame houses; mobile homes demolished; boxcars pushed over; large trees snapped or uprooted; light object missiles generated.
F3	Severe Tornado	158-206	Roof and some walls torn off well constructed homes; trains overturned; most trees in forest uprooted.
F4	Devastating Tornado	207-260	Well-constructed houses leveled; structures with weak foundations blown off some distance; cars thrown and large missiles generated.
F5	Incredible Tornado	261-318	Strong frame houses lifted off foundations and carried considerable distances to disintegrate; automobile sized missiles fly through the air in excess of 100 meters; trees debarked; steel reinforced concrete structures badly damaged.
F6	Inconceivable Tornado	319-379	These winds are very unlikely. The small area of damage they might produce would probably not be recognizable along with the mess produced by F4 and wind that would surround the F6 winds. Missiles, such as cars and refrigerators would do serious secondary damage that could not be directly identified as F6 damage. If this level is ever achieved, evidence for it might only be found in some manner of ground swirl pattern, for it may never be identifiable through engineering studies.